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Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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April 18, 2014

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Fujioka", is written over the printed name of the Chief Executive Officer.

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Executive Summary

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- **Pursuit of County Position on AB 2150 (Rendon).** This measure would require the California Department of Parks and Recreation to: 1) identify and develop a priority list of deferred State park maintenance projects; 2) apply specified factors when prioritizing and identifying deferred State park maintenance projects; and 3) extend the prohibition against closing or proposing to close a State park through FY 2014-15. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policies to support legislation that provides for full funding for the local operation, maintenance, management, planning and development of State-owned parks and open space areas managed by the County, such as Castaic Lake State Recreation Area, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and Placerita Canyon State Park, **the Sacramento advocates will support AB 2150.**
- **Status of County-supported AB 1970 (Gordon).** This measure related to local assistance grants to develop and implement integrated community-level greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects, was amended on April 10, 2014.

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Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

AB 2150 (Rendon), which as introduced on February 20, 2014, would require, among other provisions, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) to: 1) identify and develop a priority list of deferred State park maintenance projects; 2) apply specified factors when prioritizing and identifying deferred State park maintenance projects; and 3) create the Division of Community Initiatives and Park Access within CDPR. This measure also extends the prohibition against closing or proposing to close a State park to FY 2014-15 and would similarly not limit or affect CDPR's authority to enter into an operating agreement during FY 2014-15. AB 2150 is an urgency measure which requires a two-thirds vote of the Legislature and, if enacted, it would be effective immediately upon the Governor's signature.

Under existing law, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the State park system, which includes all parks, public camp grounds, monument sites, landmark sites, and sites of historical interest. CDPR is also required to administer, protect, develop, and interpret the property under its jurisdiction for the use and enjoyment of the public and is authorized to expend all departmental monies for the care, protection, supervision, extension, and improvement or development of property under its jurisdiction. Under existing law, CDPR is prohibited from closing or proposing to close a State park in FY 2012-13 or FY 2013-14; however, this prohibition does not limit or affect CDPR's authority to enter into an operating agreement in either of those years for the purposes of operating a State park.

Under AB 2150, the California Department of Parks and Recreation would be required, when prioritizing and identifying deferred State park maintenance projects, to consider projects that are necessary to: 1) prevent park closure; 2) avoid violations of State law; 3) address imminent public safety hazards; 4) maintain or possibly increase revenue generation; 5) increase access to underserved communities; 6) protect significant natural or cultural resources; and 7) maintain visitation opportunities at State parks.

Additionally, under this measure, the objectives of the newly created Division of Community Initiatives and Park Access within CDPR will include, but not be limited to: 1) promoting/enhancing park access to urban and underserved communities; 2) partnering with governmental agencies and interested stakeholders to increase the capacity of local communities to meet the recreational and open space needs of their residents; and 3) developing and promoting programs that address the park and recreational needs of underserved youth and young adults. Furthermore, in addition to the existing prohibitions related to the closure of State parks, AB 2150 would extend this prohibition through FY 2014-15.

The Department of Parks and Recreation, which manages three State parks on behalf of CDPR (Castaic Lake State Recreation Area, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and Placerita Canyon State Park), indicates that AB 2150 will not have a negative fiscal or operational impact on the Department. Additionally, DPR indicates that while the newly proposed Division of Community Initiatives and Park Access will be responsible for, among other things, partnering with governmental agencies and interested stakeholders to meet the recreational and open space needs of their residents, the specific benefits to the County are yet to be determined.

This office and the Department of Parks and Recreation support AB 2150. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policies to support legislation that provides for full funding for the local operation, maintenance, management, planning and development of State-owned parks and open space areas managed by the County, such as Castaic Lake State Recreation Area, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and Placerita Canyon State Park, securing an equitable allocation of State funding for locally-operated units of the State Park System, **the Sacramento advocates will support AB 2150.**

AB 2150 is supported by the California State Parks Foundation and the Trust for Public Lands. There is no registered opposition to this measure.

AB 2150 passed the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee by a vote of 10 to 4 on March 25, 2014, and is currently with the Assembly Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported AB 1970 (Gordon), which as introduced on February 19, 2014, would create the Community Investment and Innovation Program to provide local assistance grants and other financial assistance to eligible recipients for the purposes of developing and implementing integrated community-level greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects in their region, was amended on April 10, 2014.

As amended, the bill would now require the Strategic Growth Council to consult with the California Air Resources Board to administer the program. The amendments also revised the definition of eligible applicants to delete environmental justice communities, which were defined as communities meeting certain criteria under the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool. The bill now focuses on local governments, either individually or collectively, and special districts as eligible grant

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recipients. As amended, AB 1970 is consistent with the County's previous support of the bill and existing policy to support funding to assist local government compliance with existing and pending regulations to reduce emissions from both mobile and fixed sources. **Therefore, the Sacramento advocates will continue to support AB 1970.**

AB 1970 is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Local Government Committee on April 23, 2014.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:OR:RM:AO:ma

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
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